

Mr. REED. Mr. President, with respect to the nominations confirmed today, I ask unanimous consent that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and that the Senate return to legislative session.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senate will now return to legislative session.

INAUGURAL CEREMONY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Inaugural Ceremony proceedings be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

INAUGURAL CEREMONY

Inauguration of Barack Hussein Obama, January 20, 2009, 11:30 a.m.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff assembled on the President's platform.

The Diplomatic Corps assembled on the President's platform.

The Governors of the United States and its territories and the Mayor of the District of Columbia assembled on the President's platform.

Members of the 111th House of Representatives of the United States, led by majority whip James E. Clyburn and Republican whip Eric Cantor, assembled on the President's platform.

Members of the Senate of the United States assembled on the President's platform.

Former Speakers of the House of Representatives, Thomas Foley and Newt Gingrich, accompanied by Mrs. Foley and Mrs. Gingrich, assembled on the President's platform.

Former Vice Presidents Walter Mondale, Dan Quayle, and Al Gore, accompanied by Mrs. Mondale, Mrs. Quayle, and Mrs. Gore, assembled on the President's platform.

Mr. William M. Daley, Ms. Penny Pritzker, Mr. John W. Rogers, Jr., Mr. Patrick G. Ryan, and Ms. Julianna Smoot, cochairs of the 56th Presidential Inaugural Committee; and Mr. Emmett S. Beliveau, executive director of the 56th Presidential Inaugural Committee, assembled on the President's platform.

The President-elect's Cabinet and agency designees assembled on the President's platform.

The Chief Justice of the United States, the Honorable John G. Roberts, Jr., and the Associate Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States assembled on the President's platform.

The 39th President of the United States, Jimmy Carter, and Mrs. Rosalynn Carter assembled on the President's platform.

The 41st President of the United States, George H.W. Bush, and Mrs. Barbara Bush assembled on the President's platform.

The 42nd President of the United States, William Jefferson Clinton, and Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton assembled on the President's platform.

The children of the Vice President-elect, CPT Beau Biden, Hunter Biden, and Ashley Biden, accompanied by House Chief Administrative Officer Dan Beard, assembled on the President's platform.

Mrs. Marian Robinson and the daughters of the President-elect, Malia and Sasha Obama, accompanied by Assistant Secretary of the Senate Sheila Dwyer, assembled on the President's platform.

The First Lady, Mrs. Laura Bush, and the wife of the Vice President, Mrs. Lynne Cheney, accompanied by Secretary Chao, Mrs. Bennett, Mrs. Boehner, and Republican staff director of the U.S. Senate Committee on Rules and Administration, Mary Sui Jones, assembled on the President's platform.

Mrs. Michelle Obama and Dr. Jill Biden, accompanied by the Secretary of the Senate, Nancy Erickson; the Clerk of the House of Representatives, Lorraine Miller; Mr. Blum, Mr. Pelosi, and Mrs. Reid, assembled on the President's platform.

The President of the United States, the Honorable George Walker Bush, and the Vice President of the United States, Dick Cheney, accompanied by Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell, Senator Robert Bennett, House Republican leader, Representative John Boehner, and Secretary for the minority David Schiappa, assembled on the President's platform.

The Vice President-elect of the United States, Joseph R. Biden, Jr., accompanied by the inaugural coordinator for the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, Jennifer Griffith; Senate Deputy Sergeant at Arms Drew Wilson; House Deputy Sergeant at Arms Kerri Hanley; Senate majority leader, Senator Harry Reid; House majority leader, Representative Steny Hoyer, assembled on the President's platform.

The President-elect of the United States, Barack H. Obama, accompanied by the staff director for the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, Howard Gantman; the Senate Sergeant at Arms, Terrence W. Gainer; the House Sergeant at Arms, Wilson Livingood; chairman of the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, Senator Dianne Feinstein; Senator Robert Bennett; the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Nancy Pelosi; the Senate majority leader, Harry Reid; House majority leader, Representative Steny Hoyer; House Republican leader, Representative John Boehner, assembled on the President's platform.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President and Vice President, Mr. President-elect and Vice President-elect, ladies and gentlemen, welcome to the inauguration of the 44th President of the United States of America.

(Applause.)

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. The world is watching today as our great democracy engages in this peaceful transition of power. Here on the National Mall, where we remember the founders of our Nation and those who fought to make it free, we gather to etch another line in the solid stone of history. The freedom of a people to choose its leaders is the root of liberty. In a world where political strife is too often settled with violence, we come here every 4 years to bestow the power of the Presidency upon our democratically elected leader.

Those who doubt the supremacy of the ballot over the bullet can never diminish the power engendered by nonviolent struggles for justice and equality like the one that made this day possible. No triumph tainted by brutality could ever match the sweet victory of this hour and of what it means to those who marched and died to make it a reality. Our work is not yet finished, but future generations will mark this morning as the turning point for real and necessary change in our Nation. They will look back and remember that this was the moment when the dream that once echoed across history from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial finally reached the walls of the White House.

(Applause.)

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. In that spirit, we today not only inaugurate a new administration, we pledge ourselves to the hope, the vision, the unity, and the renewed call to greatness inspired by the 44th President of the United States, Barack Obama.

(Applause.)

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Thank you, and God bless America.

(Applause.)

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. At this time I call upon Dr. Rick Warren, pastor of the Saddleback Church in Lake Forest, CA, to provide the invocation.

Pastor WARREN. Let us pray.

Almighty God, our Father, everything we see and everything we can't see exists because of You alone. It all comes from You. It all belongs to You. It all exists for Your glory. History is Your story. The scripture tells us: Hear, O Israel, the Lord is our God, the Lord is one. And You are the compassionate and merciful one, and You are loving to every one You have made. Now, today, we rejoice, not only in America's peaceful transfer of power for the 44th time, we celebrate a hinge point of history, with the inauguration of our first African-American President of the United States. We are so grateful to live in this land, a land of unequaled possibility, where the son of an African American can rise to the highest level of our leadership. And we know today that Dr. King and a great cloud of witnesses are shouting in heaven.

Give to our new President Barack Obama the wisdom to lead us with humility, the courage to lead us with integrity, the compassion to lead us with generosity. Bless and protect him, his family, Vice President Biden, the Cabinet, and every one of our freely elected leaders. Help us, O God, to remember that we are Americans, united not by race or religion or blood but to our commitment to freedom and justice for all.

When we focus on ourselves, when we fight each other, when we forget You, forgive us. When we presume that our greatness and our prosperity is ours alone, forgive us. When we fail to treat our fellow human beings and all the Earth with the respect that they deserve, forgive us.

As we face these difficult days ahead, may we have a new birth of clarity in aims, responsibility in our actions, humility in our approaches, and civility in our attitudes, even when we differ. Help us to share, to serve, and to seek the common good of all. May all people of goodwill today join together to work for a more just, a more healthy, and a more prosperous nation and a peaceful planet. And may we never forget that one day all nations and all people will stand accountable before You.

We now commit our new President and his wife Michelle and his daughters, Malia and Sasha, into Your loving care. I humbly ask this in the name of the one who changed my life, Yeshua, Esau, Jesus, Jesus, who taught us to pray: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on Earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

(Applause.)

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. I am so pleased to introduce world renowned musical artist Aretha Franklin to sing "My Country 'Tis of Thee." (Performance by Ms. Aretha Franklin.)

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Please join me in welcoming my colleague from Utah, the Honorable Robert Bennett.

Mr. BENNETT. It is my great honor to introduce Associate Justice of the Supreme